



# New Year's Tree

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1 9 6 3



*The children looked at the calendar that morning, and only the last leaf remained: 31th of December.*



*Tomorrow New Year! Tomorrow fun holiday called the New Year's Tree! Toys will be ready, but there is no New Year's tree. The children decided to write a letter to grandfather Frost so that he would send a New Year's tree from the dense forest. The most fluffy, most beautiful New Year's tree...*





*To Grandfather Frost from children.*

*Dear Grandfather Frost!*

*Please give us a New Year's tree  
for the New Year!*

*And we will make the toys to  
decorate the tree ourselves.*

*Our Snowman will bring you  
a letter!*

*- Children.*



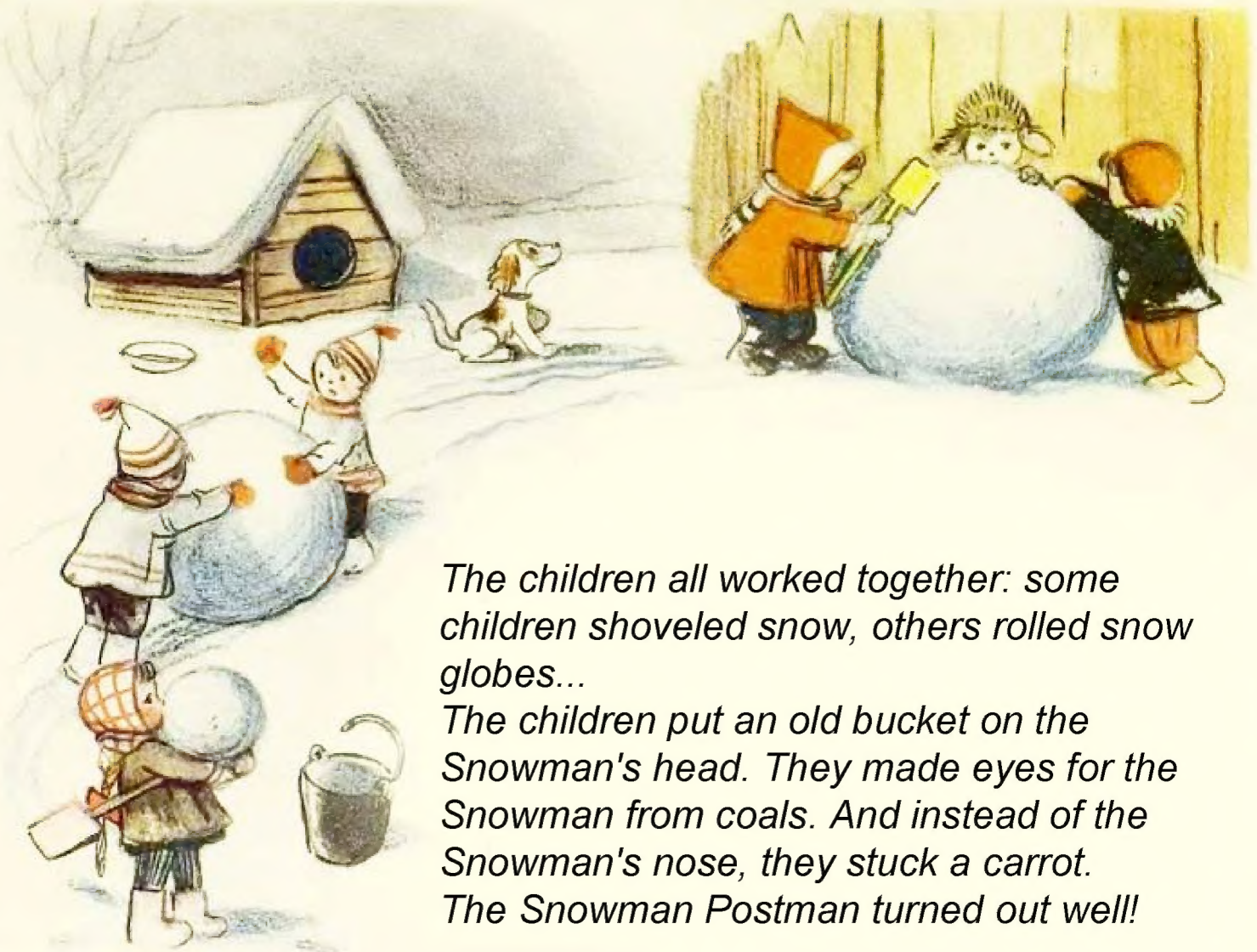
*Our Snowman*

For Grandfather Frost

From children.

*The children wrote this letter, and immediately after that  
they ran into the yard to sculpt a Snowman.*





*The children all worked together: some children shoveled snow, others rolled snow globes...*

*The children put an old bucket on the Snowman's head. They made eyes for the Snowman from coals. And instead of the Snowman's nose, they stuck a carrot.*  
*The Snowman Postman turned out well!*







*The children gave him their letter and said:*

*"Snowman, Snowman!  
You are a brave snow postman.  
You will go into the dark forest.  
You will take the letter.*

*Grandfather Frost will receive our letter.  
He will find a fluffy, beautiful New Year's tree  
in the forest, decorated with green needles.  
Please bring this New Year's Tree quickly  
for all the children!"*





*Evening came. The children went home, but the Snowman remained on the street. He said: "The children entrusted me with a difficult task! Where should I go now?"*

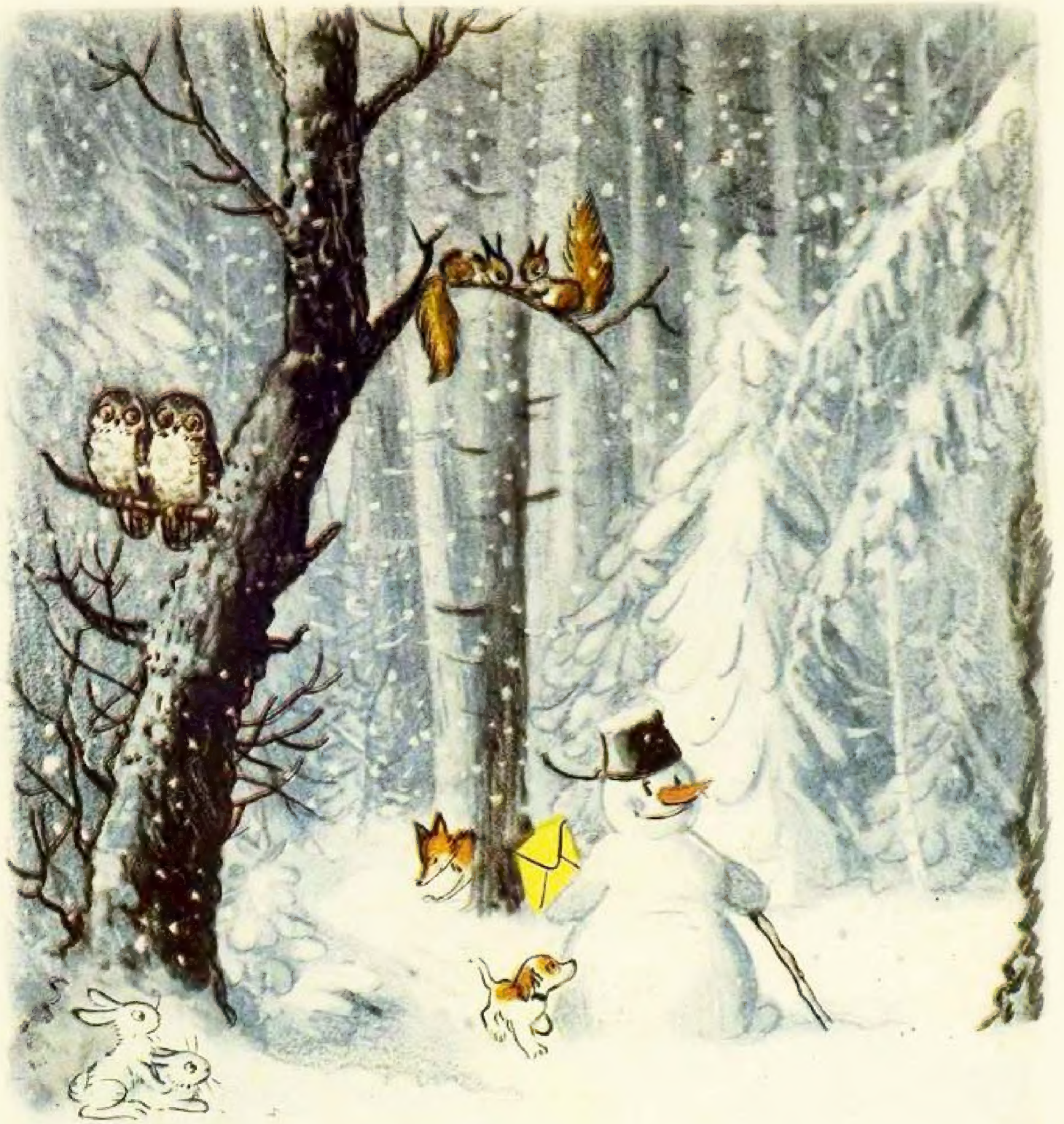


*"Take me with you!" suddenly the puppy Bobik said. "I will help you find the way."*



*"That's right: traveling together is more fun!" the Snowman was delighted. "You will protect me and the letter, and also remember the way."*





*The Snowman and the puppy Bobik walked for a long time and finally they came to a huge, dense forest...*





*The Hare ran out to meet them. "Where does Grandfather Frost live?" the Snowman asked the Hare. But the Hare had no time to answer the question. A Fox was chasing him.*



*And the puppy Bobik barked "Duh, Duh!"  
And then the puppy ran after the Hare!*



*The Snowman became sad.  
"Apparently, I'll have to go on alone."*





*At that moment a snowstorm arose.  
The snowstorm howled and swirled with snow...*



*The Snowman trembled and crumbled.  
Only a bucket and a carrot remained lying on the snow.*



*The evil Fox came running back. "Where is the one who  
prevented me from catching up with the Hare?"  
The Fox looked: "There is no one, only a letter lies in the snow."  
The fox grabbed the letter and ran away.*





*The puppy Bobik returned back.  
"Where is the Snowman?"  
There was no Snowman.*



*At this time, the Wolf caught up with the  
Fox.  
"What are you carrying, cousin?"  
the Wolf growled. "Let's share!"  
"I don't want to share. I will take this  
letter myself," said the Fox and ran.  
The Wolf ran after the Fox.*



*And the curious Magpie flew after them.*





*The puppy Bobik cried, and the hares said to him:  
"Serves you right: don't chase us, don't scare us."*



*"I won't scare you, I won't chase you," said puppy Bobik,  
and then he began to cry even louder.*



*"Don't cry, we will help you," said the hares.  
"We'll help the hares," said the squirrels.*

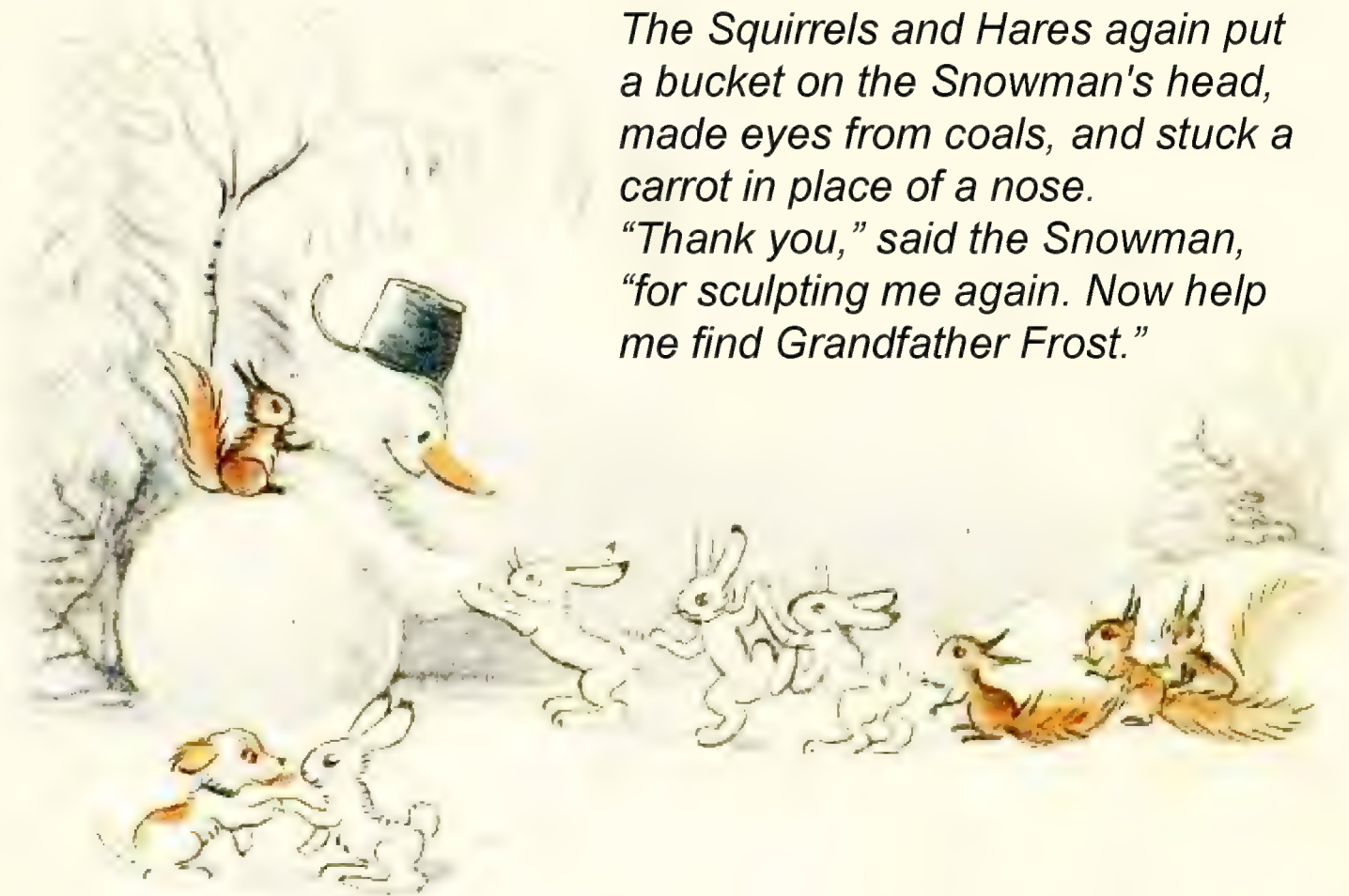




*The hares began to sculpt a Snowman, and the squirrels began to help the hares. Hares shoveled snow with their paws. Squirrels swept the snow into a pile with their tails.*

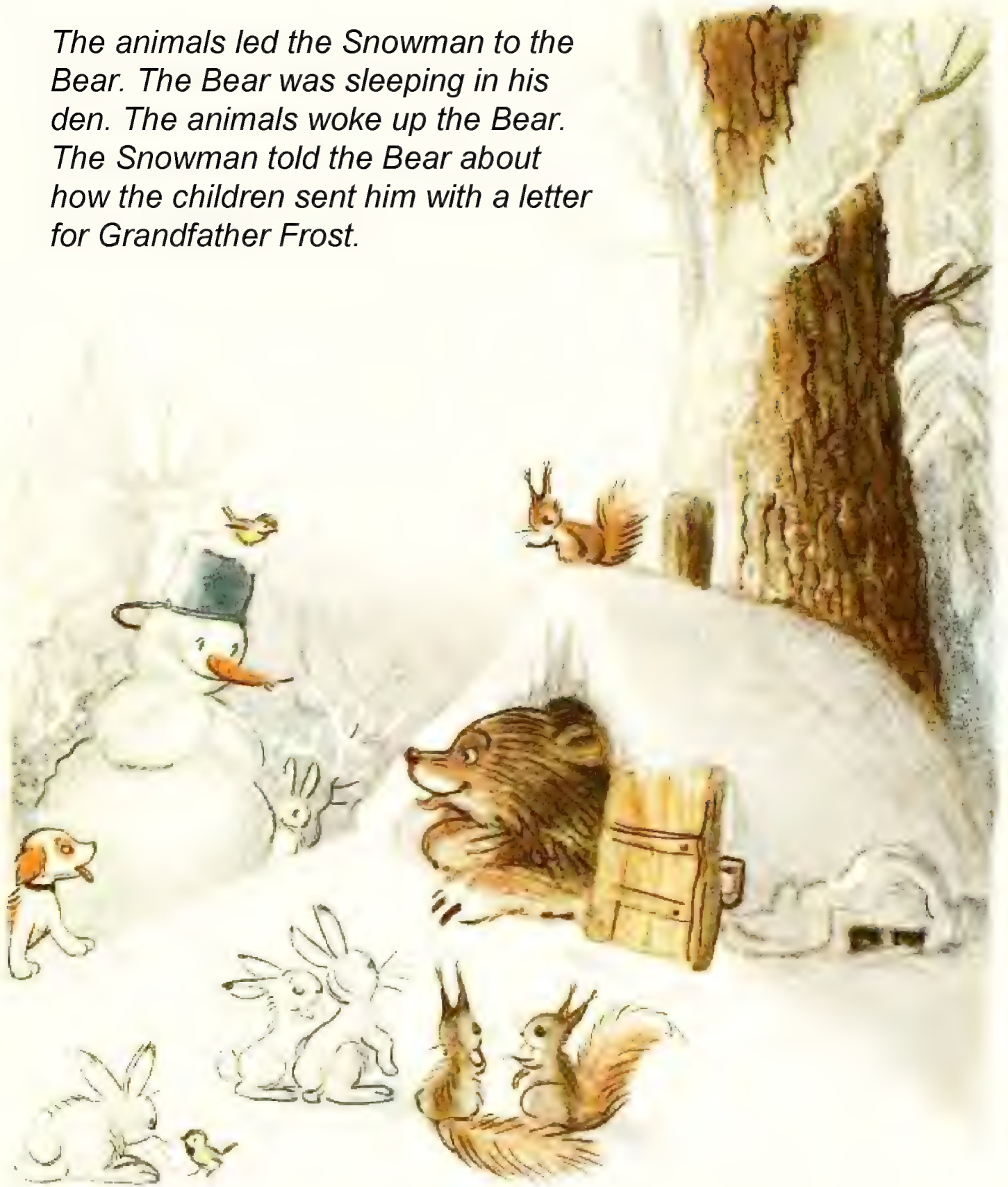
*The Squirrels and Hares again put a bucket on the Snowman's head, made eyes from coals, and stuck a carrot in place of a nose.*

*"Thank you," said the Snowman, "for sculpting me again. Now help me find Grandfather Frost."*





*The animals led the Snowman to the Bear. The Bear was sleeping in his den. The animals woke up the Bear. The Snowman told the Bear about how the children sent him with a letter for Grandfather Frost.*



*"Letter?" the Bear roared. "Where is it?"  
The animals began to look for the letter.  
But they couldn't find the letter!*





*"Grandfather Frost won't give you a Christmas tree without a letter," said the Bear. "You'd better go back home, and I'll take you out of the forest."*

*Suddenly Magpie flew in.*

*Magpie shouted:*

*"Here's the letter! Here's the letter!"*

*And Magpie told them how she found the letter.*



*And this is how it all happened.*







*All the animals and the Snowman took the letter and went to Grandfather Frost.*



*The Snowman was in a hurry and worried. He could either slide down the hill, or fall into a hole, or get caught on a stump.*



*Well, the Bear helped him out, otherwise the Snowman would have fallen apart again.*



*Finally everyone came to Grandfather Frost.  
Grandfather Frost read the letter and said: "Why  
did you come so late? Now the Snowman will not  
have time to bring the children a tree for the New  
Year."*







*Then all the animals began to protect the Snowman. The animals told what happened to him. Grandfather Frost gave the Snowman his sleigh, and the Snowman rushed with the New Year's tree to the children in the town.*



*The Bear went to his home. He will sleep until spring.*





*And in the morning the Snowman stood at the same place in town, only in his hands instead of a letter there was a New Year's tree.*





Drawings by the author.  
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